

Safe and Stable Families Program"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5846. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, a report relative to the Administration's proposal for the reauthorization of the Medical Device User Fee Act (MDUFA); to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5847. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, reports entitled "The National Healthcare Quality Report 2011" and "The National Healthcare Disparities Report 2011"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5848. A communication from the Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disclosure of Information for Certain Intellectual Property Rights Enforced at the Border" (RIN1515-AD87) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 18, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5849. A communication from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Executive Summary" of the "2011 Annual Report of the Director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts" and "Judicial Business of the United States Courts" and the Uniform Resource Locators (URL) for the complete copies of those reports; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5850. A communication from the Chairman, Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the memorial construction; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

## PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-76. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Maine urging the President of the United States and the United States Congress to review portions of the National Defense Authorization Act; to the Committee on Armed Services.

### HOUSE PAPER NO. 1397

We, your Memorialists, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Maine now assembled in the Second Regular Session, most respectfully present and petition the President of the United States and the United States Congress as follows:

Whereas, the United States Congress passed the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2012 on December 15, 2011, and the President of the United States signed the Act into law on December 31, 2011; and

Whereas, the Act directs the Armed Forces of the United States to detain any person who is captured in the course of hostilities authorized by the federal Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Terrorists and who is determined to be a member of or part of al-Qaeda or an associated force that acts in coordination with or pursuant to the direction of al-Qaeda and to have participated in the course of planning or carrying out an attack against the United States or its coalition partners; and

Whereas, the disagreements and uncertainty in interpretation of the law has raised

significant concerns about due process for United States citizens; and

Whereas, the prospect of the indefinite detention of United States citizens violates, without due process of law, basic rights enshrined in the United States Constitution, such as the right to seek a writ of habeas corpus, the right to petition for a redress of grievances, the right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures and the right to counsel; and

Whereas, it is crucial to national security that funding contained in the National Defense Authorization Act for the Department of Defense and members of the military and their dependents remain intact; and

Whereas, the members of this Legislature have taken an oath to uphold the United States Constitution and the Constitution of Maine: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That We, your Memorialists, most respectfully urge and request that the President of the United States and the United States Congress amend the National Defense Authorization Act to clarify that any provisions contained within will not deprive United States citizens of the rights of due process; and be it further

*Resolved*, That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable Barack H. Obama, President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and to each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

POM-77. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan memorializing Congress to reject the recommendations of the United States Department of Defense to remove the A-10 Thunderbolt II force from the 127th Wing of the Air National Guard at Selfridge Air National Guard Base; to the Committee on Armed Services.

### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 211

Whereas, The federal mission of the Air National Guard is to maintain well-trained, well-equipped units available for prompt mobilization during war and to provide assistance during national emergencies; and

Whereas, The Michigan Air National Guard exemplifies this federal mission and provides well-trained citizen-airmen to the United States Air Force; and

Whereas, Utilizing the highly-trained and experienced citizen-airmen of the Michigan Air National Guard is significantly more economical for the United States Department of Defense than utilizing active military units; and

Whereas, The Michigan Air National Guard provides protection of life and property, and preserves peace, order, and public safety in the state of Michigan, by providing emergency relief support during natural disasters; conducting search and rescue operations; providing support to civil defense authorities; and maintaining vital public services and counterdrug operations in the state; and

Whereas, The Michigan Air National Guard, being the air force militia of the state, has a long and proud history with the state of Michigan; and

Whereas, The Selfridge Air National Guard Base dates back to 1917, and currently hosts 20 units from all branches of the United States military, as well as the United States Coast Guard and the United States Customs and Border Patrol; and

Whereas, The 127th Wing flies KC-135 Stratotankers, which provide aerial refueling capabilities around the globe in support of Air Mobility Command, and A-10 Thunderbolt II, which provide support to Air Combat Command. Additionally, the 127th Wing sup-

ports the Air Force Special Operations Command with its 107th Weather Flight; and

Whereas, The A-10 Thunderbolt II mission was transferred to Selfridge Air National Guard Base from the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base following the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommendations; and

Whereas, The Department of Defense has proposed the removal of all 24 of the A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft from the 127th Wing and replacing them with four additional KC-135 Stratotankers; and

Whereas, Approximately 650 personnel are attached to the A-10 Thunderbolt II mission; and

Whereas, It is unknown how many support personnel will be necessary to service the additional KC-35 Stratotankers; and

Whereas, Removing the A-10 Thunderbolt II mission could affect more than 600 families in and around Macomb County; and

Whereas, The removal of the A-10 Thunderbolt II mission could make the Selfridge Air National Guard Base vulnerable to closure in future Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommendations; and

Whereas, The Selfridge Air National Guard Base is one of the busiest, most diverse military installations in the United States, encompassing approximately 680 buildings, runways measuring 9,000 and 4,870 feet, over a million square yards of taxiway and paved aircraft parking ramps, 39 miles of paved roads, and seven miles of railroad track; and

Whereas, Recent military construction improvements to Selfridge include \$5.2 million to replace the Control Tower/Radar Approach Control Center and \$9.8 million for an infrastructure upgrade; and

Whereas, The Selfridge Air National Guard Base is essential to the local economy, as nearly 3,000 full-time civilian and military personnel work at the base, in addition to approximately 3,000 members of the Air and Army National Guard and the reserve components of the United States military who are stationed at the base; and

Whereas, Portions of the Selfridge Air National Guard Base have previously been targeted for closure in 1995 and 2005; and

Whereas, The defense industry is vital to the economy of Macomb County; and

Whereas, The loss of the Selfridge Air National Guard Base will have a significant impact on the local community, with the loss of employment positions, local revenue, and a significant source of community pride; and

Whereas, The military presence in Michigan has already been significantly reduced by the United States Department of Defense with the 1977 decision to close Kincheloe Air Force Base in Chippewa County, the 1991 decision to close the Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Iosco County, the 1993 decision to close the K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base in Marquette County, and the 2005 decision to close the United States Army Garrison at Selfridge Air National Guard Base; and

Whereas, Losses to the 127th Wing of the Air National Guard at Selfridge Air National Guard Base will have immeasurable consequences for the state of Michigan, both in terms of economic ramifications, as well as in terms of community pride and disaster readiness: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives*, That we urge the Congress of the United States to reject the United States Department of Defense recommendations to remove the A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft from the 127th Wing of the Air National Guard at Selfridge Air National Guard Base; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the United States Secretary of Defense, President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States

House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-78. A memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Florida, memorializing Congress to repeal the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

#### SENATE MEMORIAL NO. 1778

Whereas, Congress enacted the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act in 2010, and

Whereas, the stated purposes of the act are “To promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end ‘too big to fail,’ to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial Services practices . . .” and

Whereas, the act’s almost 2,400 pages of federal legislation increases the size of the Federal Government by creating 13 new regulatory agencies requiring 2,600 new positions while abolishing only one agency, and

Whereas, the Congressional Budget Office predicts that the cost for companies to implement the act over the next 5 years will be approximately \$2.9 billion, and other groups estimate that the broader economic costs of the act could approach \$1 trillion, and

Whereas, the extensive regulations imposed by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act will severely damage the ability of American companies to compete internationally with foreign companies or even create American jobs, and

Whereas, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act is an inadequate response to the financial devastation that began in 2008, in part because it has given unfair advantages to the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“Freddie Mac”) and the Federal National Mortgage Association (“Fannie Mae”), institutions that were substantial contributors to the financial crisis, and,

Whereas, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act was championed as creating the most significant financial regulatory reform since the Great Depression, but, in contrast, it has become a radical expansion of federal regulation, vests unprecedented power in the hands of unelected bureaucrats, increases the likelihood that there will be more taxpayer bailouts, has not strengthened the economy or brought stability to the troubled housing market, and does nothing to address the most elemental causes that created the financial crisis of 2008: Now, therefore, be it *Resolved, by the Legislature of the State of Florida:* That the Congress of the United States is urged to repeal the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010; be it further

*Resolved,* that copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.

POM-79. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona memorializing the United States Congress enact legislation exempting United States military bases and training facilities from the regulations and restrictions of the Endangered Species Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL NO. 1008

Whereas, the mission of the United States Department of Defense is “to provide the military forces needed to deter war and to protect the security of our country”; and

Whereas, according to the Department of Defense and the Government Accountability Office (GAO), a fundamental principle of military readiness is that the military must train as it intends to fight; and

Whereas, the Department of Defense has established military training facilities in Arizona, including Luke Air Force Base, Fort Huachuca and the Barry M. Goldwater range, among others, to accomplish this goal; and

Whereas, Department of Defense officials indicate that heightened focus on the application of environmental statutes has affected the use of its training areas; and

Whereas, compliance with environmental regulations, especially the Endangered Species Act (ESA), has caused some training activities to be canceled, postponed or modified; and

Whereas, compliance with environmental regulations, particularly the ESA, has forced military officials to make adjustments to training regimens, including requiring units in training to avoid areas with ESA restrictions; and

Whereas, since 2003, the Department of Defense has obtained exemptions from three environmental laws and sought exemptions from three others; and

Whereas, these exemptions allow the military to maintain its high state of readiness and help to ensure its ability to meet unexpected threats; and

Whereas, these exemptions are under increased scrutiny by environmental groups and federal officials who would rather protect wildlife than allow the military to maintain its readiness; and

Whereas, a GAO report found no instances in which the Department of Defense’s use of exemptions from the ESA or the Migratory Bird Treaty Act has adversely affected the environment; and

Whereas, the United States military has proven itself to be a responsible and effective steward of the land and environment.

Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring, prays:

1. That the United States Congress enact legislation exempting United States military bases and training facilities from the regulations and restrictions of the Endangered Species Act.

2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit a copy of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM-80. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana memorializing the United States Congress to review the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision Social Security benefit reductions and to consider eliminating or reducing them; to the Committee on Finance.

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 57

Whereas, the Congress of the United States has enacted both the Government Pension Offset (GPO), reducing the spousal and survivor Social Security benefit, and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), reducing the earned Social Security benefit for any person who also receives a public pension benefit; and

Whereas, the intent of Congress in enacting the GPO and the WEP provisions was to address concerns that a public employee who had worked primarily in federal, state, or local government employment might receive a public pension in addition to the same Social Security benefit as a person who had worked only in employment covered by Social Security throughout his career; and

Whereas, the purpose of Congress in enacting these reduction provisions was to provide a disincentive for public employees to receive two pensions; and

Whereas, the GPO negatively affects a spouse or survivor receiving a federal, state, or local government retirement or pension benefit who would also be entitled to a Social Security benefit earned by a spouse; and

Whereas, the GPO formula reduces the spousal or survivor Social Security benefit by two-thirds of the amount of the federal, state, or local government retirement or pension benefit received by the spouse or survivor, in many cases completely eliminating the Social Security benefit; and

Whereas, nine out of ten public employees affected by the GPO lose their entire spousal benefits, even though their spouses paid Social Security taxes for many years; and

Whereas, the GPO often reduces spousal benefits so significantly it makes the difference between self-sufficiency and poverty; and

Whereas, the GPO has a harsh effect on thousands of citizens and undermines the original purpose of the Social Security dependent/survivor benefit; and

Whereas, the GPO negatively impacts approximately 28,825 Louisianians; and

Whereas, the WEP applies to those persons who have earned federal, state, or local government retirement or pension benefits, in addition to working in employment covered under Social Security and paying into the Social Security system; and

Whereas, the WEP reduces the earned Social Security benefit using an averaged indexed monthly earnings formula and may reduce Social Security benefits for affected persons by as much as one-half of the retirement benefit earned as a public servant in employment not covered under Social Security; and

Whereas, the WEP causes hardworking individuals to lose a significant portion of the Social Security benefits that they earn themselves; and

Whereas, the WEP negatively impacts approximately 27,755 Louisianians; and

Whereas, because of these calculation characteristics, the GPO and the WEP have a disproportionately negative effect on employees working in lower-wage government jobs, like policemen, firefighters, teachers, and state employees; and

Whereas, these provisions also have a greater adverse effect on women than on men because of the gender differences in salary that continue to plague our nation and because of the longer life expectancy of women; and

Whereas, Louisiana is making every effort to improve the quality of life of its citizens and to encourage them to live here lifelong, yet the current GPO and WEP provisions compromise that quality of life; and

Whereas, retired individuals negatively affected by GPO and WEP have significantly less money to support their basic needs and sometimes have to turn to government assistance programs; and

Whereas, the GPO and the WEP penalize individuals who have dedicated their lives to public service by taking away benefits they have earned; and

Whereas, our nation should respect, not penalize, public servants; and

Whereas, the number of people affected by GPO and WEP is growing every day as more and more people reach retirement age;

Whereas, the GPO and WEP are established in federal law, and repeal of the GPO and the WEP can only be enacted by the United States Congress: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved,* That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the Congress of the United States to review the Government

Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision Social Security benefit reductions and to consider eliminating or reducing them by enacting the Social Security Fairness Act of 2011 (H.R. 1332), the Public Servant Retirement Protection Act of 2011 (S. 113), or a similar instrument; and be it further

*Resolved*, That a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress.

POM-81. A memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Florida memorializing Congress to initiate and support nationwide efforts to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the end of the United States' involvement in the Vietnam War and demonstrate the nation's appreciation for the honorable service and sacrifice of Vietnam veterans; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### SENATE MEMORIAL NO. 1080

Whereas, the Vietnam War was a Cold War military conflict that occurred in Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia from November 1, 1955, until the United States Congress passed the Case-Church amendment in 1973 which prohibited the further use of American military forces in the conflict, and

Whereas, 2013 marks the 40th anniversary of the end of the United States' involvement in the Vietnam War, and

Whereas, there are an estimated 650,000 Vietnam veterans in the State of Florida, and

Whereas, because of the intense public opposition to the war that existed at the time, members of the United States Armed Services returned home to an unprecedented lack of formal positive recognition of the honorable service they had provided on behalf of their country and the tremendous sacrifices they had made, and

Whereas, the lack of formal "Welcome Home" parades and other traditional celebrations for returning soldiers that were common in previous military conflicts in which the United States was engaged, coupled with verbal and sometimes physical abuse, resulted in great disillusionment, undeserved indignity, and often great suffering and anguish among returning Vietnam veterans, and

Whereas, many of these brave men and women are now reaching an advanced age, and

Whereas, March 30, 2013, will mark the official date of the 40th anniversary of the end of the United States' involvement in the Vietnam War, and

Whereas, on that date this nation will be presented with a unique and historic opportunity to hold appropriate observances and long-overdue recognition ceremonies that will honor our nation's aging Vietnam War veterans and that may finally provide these brave men and women a fitting expression of gratitude and a measure of healing and official closure that has been denied them for decades and that they so greatly deserve, and

Whereas, the importance of the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the end of the United States' involvement in the Vietnam War and the opportunity that such an historical anniversary presents to attempt to rectify past injustices and ingratitude cannot be stressed strongly enough, and

Whereas, it is fitting and appropriate that the United States Congress initiate and support efforts at the national level to mark this historic anniversary and to attempt to redress the lack of appropriate recognition and undeserved ingratitude that so many of

these brave servicemen and servicewomen received upon returning home, and

Whereas, as part of a national effort, it is also requested that the United States Congress authorize the minting of a 40th anniversary commemorative medal expressing the nation's appreciation for the honorable service of Vietnam veterans, and

Whereas, for this historic opportunity to be fully realized, the United States Congress should act promptly and decisively: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida*: That the Congress of the United States is urged to initiate and support nationwide efforts to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the end of the United States' involvement in the Vietnam War and demonstrate the nation's appreciation for the honorable service and sacrifice of Vietnam veterans; and be it further

*Resolved*, That, as part of such national effort, the United States Congress is requested to authorize the minting of a 40th anniversary commemorative medal expressing the nation's appreciation for the honorable service of Vietnam veterans; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress, and to the legislative governing body of each of the other 49 states of the United States.

POM-82. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming memorializing the United States Congress, the United States Department of Health and Human Services, and the President of the United States reverse the mandate that virtually all private health care plans must cover sterilization, abortifacients and contraception; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

Whereas, on January 20, 2012 the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reaffirmed a rule that virtually all private health care plans must cover sterilization, abortifacients and contraception; and

Whereas, there are religious faiths in the United States that view sterilization, abortifacients and contraception as immoral and view paying for them as against their religion; and

Whereas, the administration is attempting to force those religious faiths and their institutions, including schools and hospitals to violate the commandments of their faith by paying for this mandate; and

Whereas, this mandate violates the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States by denying these faiths the free exercise of their religion; and

Whereas, this mandate sets a precedent that would allow for an opposite law forbidding the coverage of these items thus denying faiths with opposing views the free exercise of their religion; and

Whereas, the mandate threatens the religious freedoms of all Americans; and

Whereas, it is an injustice to force Americans to choose between violating their consciences and forgoing their healthcare; and

Whereas, longstanding federal laws expressing the decided opinion of Congress and the American people have protected Constitutional conscience rights: Now therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Members of the Legislature of the State of Wyoming*:

Section 1. That the Wyoming Legislature call on all Americans to defend our freedom of religion by opposing this mandate.

Section 2. That the Wyoming Legislature calls upon The President to reverse the mandate of the U.S. Department Human Services.

Section 3. That the Wyoming Legislature calls upon Congress to act in defense of First Amendment rights, states' rights, rights of conscience and freedom of religion.

Section 4. That the Secretary of State of Wyoming transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress and to the Wyoming Congressional Delegation.

POM-83. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona memorializing its support of increasing Border Patrol personnel; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1014

Whereas, the United States Customs and Border Protection service (CBP) of the United States Department of Homeland Security is vested with a priority mission of enforcing immigration and drug laws and the responsibility for securing and facilitating trade; and

Whereas, the CBP includes both Border Patrol and Customs Field Office personnel; and

Whereas, the need to increase CBP personnel in the Tucson sector along the border between the United States and Mexico is critical to increasing border security as well as economic stability in our border communities; and

Whereas, the need to increase the number of Customs Field Office personnel who work at the port of entry in Nogales, Douglas and Yuma, Arizona is a vital component of the economic stability in our border communities and will increase border security between the United States and Mexico; and

Whereas, an integrated approach to securing the border and increasing economic stability along the border and in our border communities is important to residents living along the border and in our border communities, and

Whereas, increasing the number of Customs Field Office personnel at the port of entry in Nogales, Douglas and Yuma, Arizona will allow increased commercial traffic and will result in increased economic growth and stability for Arizona; and

Whereas, all of the benefits of increased economic stability in Arizona can be realized if the port of entry's workload capacity is increased and less congestion and delay result; and

Whereas, increasing the number of Customs Field Office personnel at the port of entry in Nogales, Douglas and Yuma, Arizona should be part of the infrastructure improvements that are occurring at the port of entry: Therefore be it

*Resolved by the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring*:

A. That, in order to secure the border between the United States and Mexico, to enhance the security of people and their property in the currently unsecure regions of the border and to increase economic growth and stability for the residents of Arizona, the Legislature:

1. Supports the increase of Border Patrol personnel as called for in the Restore Our Border (ROB) Security Plan in the Tucson sector along the border between the United States and Mexico.

2. Supports the increase of Customs Field Office personnel at the ports of entry in Nogales, Douglas and Yuma, Arizona.

B. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit a copy of this resolution

to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM-84. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging Congress to adopt a Veterans Remembered Flag; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL NO. 1007

Whereas, there are flags for all branches of the armed services and there is a flag for POWs and MIAs, but there is no flag to honor the millions of former military personnel who have served our nation; and

Whereas, a flag is a symbol of recognition for a group or an ideal. Veterans comprise a group and certainly represent an ideal, and surely they deserve their own symbol; and

Whereas, it is estimated that 20,400,000 veterans, affiliated and unaffiliated with veterans' organizations, who have served in our nation's military comprise a significant portion of our country's population; and

Whereas, a Veterans Remembered Flag would memorialize and honor all past, present and future veterans and provide an enduring symbol to support tomorrow's veterans today; and

Whereas, displaying and flying this flag would validate the lives of millions of individuals who have served our country in times of war, peace and national crisis; and

Whereas, the Veterans Remembered Flag would fill the void of a flag to honor all veterans who have served in our country's armed forces; and

Whereas, the symbolism of this unique flag's design would be all-inclusive and would pay respect to the history of our nation and to all branches of the military, and would honor those who have served or died in the service of our nation; and

Whereas, the design of the Veterans Remembered Flag does all of the following:

1. Depicts the founding of our nation through the 13 stars that emanate from the hoist of the flag and march to the large red star that represents our nation and the five branches of our country's military that defend her: the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard.

2. The white star indicates a veteran's dedication to service.

3. The blue star honors all men and women who have ever served in our country's military.

4. The gold star memorializes those who have fallen while defending our nation.

5. The blue stripe that bears the title of the flag honors the loyalty of veterans to our nation, flag and government.

6. The green field represents the hallowed ground where all rest eternally.

Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring, prays:

1. That the United States Congress adopt a Veterans Remembered Flag as described in this Memorial.

2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM-85. A resolution adopted by the California State Lands Commission memorializing its opposition to enactment of any bill that reverses President Obama's Offshore Moratorium Act; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-86. A resolution adopted by the Lauderdale Lakes City Commission, Lauderdale Lakes, Florida memorializing condolences to

the family of Trayvon Martin and calling upon all authorities to see that justice is served; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. INOUE, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special Report entitled "Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2013." (Rept. No. 112-160).

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1119. A bill to reauthorize and improve the Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112-161).

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 1952. A bill to improve hazardous materials transportation safety and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112-162).

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 298. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 East Whitestone Boulevard in Cedar Park, Texas, as the "Army Specialist Matthew Troy Morris Post Office Building".

H.R. 1243. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 115 4th Avenue Southwest in Ardmore, Oklahoma, as the "Specialist Micheal E. Phillips Post Office".

H.R. 2079. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10 Main Street in East Rockaway, New York, as the "John J. Cook Post Office".

H.R. 2213. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 801 West Eastport Street in Iuka, Mississippi, as the "Sergeant Jason W. Vaughn Post Office".

H.R. 2244. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 67 Castle Street in Geneva, New York, as the "Corporal Steven Blaine Riccione Post Office".

H.R. 2660. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 122 North Holderrieth Boulevard in Tomball, Texas, as the "Tomball Veterans Post Office".

H.R. 2767. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8 West Silver Street in Westfield, Massachusetts, as the "William T. Trant Post Office Building".

H.R. 3004. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 260 California Drive in Yountville, California, as the "Private First Class Alejandro R. Ruiz Post Office Building".

H.R. 3246. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 15455 Manchester Road in Ballwin, Missouri, as the "Specialist Peter J. Navarro Post Office Building".

H.R. 3247. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Town and Country Commons in Chesterfield, Missouri, as the "Lance Corporal Matthew P. Pathenos Post Office Building".

H.R. 3248. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 112 South 5th Street in Saint Charles, Missouri, as the "Lance Corporal Drew W. Weaver Post Office Building".

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment and with a pre-amble:

S. Res. 419. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the United States during Public Service Recognition week.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. HARKIN for the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

\*Adam Gamoran, of Wisconsin, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences for a term expiring November 28, 2015.

\*Judith D. Singer, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences for a term expiring November 28, 2014.

\*Hirokazu Yoshikawa, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences for a term expiring November 28, 2015.

\*David James Chard, of Texas, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences for a term expiring November 28, 2015.

\*Bonnie L. Bassler, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation for a term expiring May 10, 2016.

\*Deborah S. Delisle, of South Carolina, to be Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

\*Roy Wallace McLeese III, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals for the term of fifteen years.

\*Tony Hammond, of Missouri, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission for the remainder of the term expiring October 14, 2012.

\*Mark A. Robbins, of California, to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board for the term of seven years expiring March 1, 2018.

\*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Mr. BLUNT):

S. 2346. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to modify the definition of the term "biobased product"; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. VITTER):

S. 2347. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure the continued access of Medicare beneficiaries to diagnostic imaging services; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 2348. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on cyclopentylpropionyl chloride; to the Committee on Finance.